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**PATENT**

Attorney Docket No. MDS-033C1  
(6219/30)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS: Schomacker et al.  
SERIAL NO.: Continuation of U.S. GROUP NO.: 2878  
Serial No. 10/243,535 (Parent Application)  
FILING DATE: May 19, 2004 EXAMINER: Sung, Christine  
(Parent Application)  
TITLE: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR IDENTIFYING  
SPECTRAL ARTIFACTS

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

This is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 10/243,535. Prior to the calculation of the filing fee and examination of this application, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment. Applicants believe the proper fee is submitted herewith, but if any additional fee is due, the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any such fee to Deposit Account No. 20-0531.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 9 of this paper.